

REMARKS

Amendment summary

The subject matter of claim 3 is incorporated into claim 2. Claim 3 is canceled.

Claim 4 is amended consistent with the cancellation of claim 3.

Claim 6 is amended to incorporate subject matter consistent with the amendment to claim 2.

No new matter is added by this amendment, and Applicant respectfully submits that entry of this Amendment is proper.

Status of the claims

Claims 2, 4, 6, and 7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Lommerts (U.S. Patent No. 5,194,210) in view of Yamada (U.S. Patent No. 4,987,939), Ueyoko (U.S. Patent No. 5,205,882) and Ogino (U.S. Patent No. 4,628,977).

Claims 1 and 5 are allowed, and the subject matter of claim 3 has been indicated as allowed.

Response to rejection of claims 2, 4, 6, and 7

Applicant notes that the subject matter of claim 3, which was indicated to be allowable, has been incorporated into claim 2. In addition, consistent subject matter has been added to claim 6. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the present claims are not anticipated by or rendered obvious by the cited art. Applicant respectfully requests the reconsideration and withdrawal of this § 103 rejection.

Further, with respect to the objection to claim 3, Applicant submits that this objection has been overcome by the incorporation of the subject matter of claim 3 into independent claim 2 and the cancellation of claim 3, so withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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